MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): That is not what Mr. Nair is attempting to do. According to the computation of the Chief Account Officer, Mr. Nair's resolution would result in larger expenditure. If it will be lesser expenditure, I could understand the force of the resolution.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether, by reducing the number of high paid officers, my object would not be achieved ?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): The Chief Account Officer has shown that there was no possibility of making a reduction. On the contrary, you have to go further to keep to the resolution of Mr. Nair. I am prepared to agree with Mr. Nair that there is need for reduction in the expenditure on the services. These emoluments of the services were fixed when the State was in a prosperous condition. Cocoanut was selling at Rs. 4 and Rs. 5. Paddy was selling at half a rupee per *kallur kadan* para. Nobody felt any grievance. Now the tables are very painfully turned. The tax-payer finds it difficult to meet the demands of the State. The Government have somehow or other to keep up their prestige. They are not prepared for a cut in the salaries of their officers. On the other hand, they resort to standardisation of pay, which will bear fruit only some years hence. Meanwhile, what is the fate of the tax-payer? He demands various things. All the nation-building activities of the State are in a lull. Even such things as combating malaria and cholera are not attended to. Public health is not attended to. Provision of drinking water, which is such a serious necessity in the State, is not taken into consideration at all. What is the placid explanation from the Government side? They answer, "no funds". The attempt of the Education Department is to reduce the number of schools. Thus the hands of the clock are being put back considerably on account of scarcity of money. It is the interest of Government to see that as little expenditure is incurred as possible. While that is the condition, to suggest that the minimum rate of Rs. 15 should on no account be lowered is a very serious sweeping proposition which cannot be accepted by this House. I am perfectly in agreement with Mr. Nair's resolution, which, in effect, is that there should be considerable reduction of the expenditure now incurred on the services. But I am very sorry that the resolution, as it is now couched, in the language of Mr. S. J. Nair, is very misleading. So, while I congratulate Mr. Nair for bringing up the question for consideration, for the praiseworthy endeavour that lies at the back of it to see that expenditure on the services is reduced, I find some difficulty to vote for him by way of supporting the resolution.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Sir, I am also sorry I have to oppose the resolution. I would have kept quiet but for the question put to Mr. Narayana Pillai suggesting that Mr. Nair personally would like to make the public service less attractive than it is. It is an astounding proposition, a dangerous proposition, I would say, a mischievous proposition. Sir, the best talent in any country is

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

required for Government. Government service is no disgrace. On the other hand, in every civilized country, whether it is a democracy or a limited monarchy, the people with the best education, with the best talent and patriotism, enter Government service. Their services are sought for by democracy.

I quite understand the wish of Mr. S. J. Nair to reduce public expenditure on the services. But he made the proposal and he did so with a good deal of the milk of human kindness to increase the emoluments of the lower ranks of the service. There need be no delusion, Sir, about this matter. We need not allow ourselves to be misled by any hallucination. For it has been demonstrated by the Account Officer, in very clear language yesterday, that, if the maximum pay is put at Rs. 1,000, we are not going to gain much. There are only one or two appointments which carry a pay of more than Rs. 1,000. Reference was made to the standardisation scheme. I cannot attach much value to that. In Travancore, the policy has been to formulate schemes and, then at the earliest opportunity, exceptions will be grafted upon those schemes. So, that does not matter much. I propose to put the matter on a very different ground. Take the Dewanship of Travancore. As a general proposition, it would be absurd if anybody comes forward and says that on no account should the Dewan of Travancore be paid more than Rs. 1,000. For, if you subscribe to the view that you want the best man to administer the State as Dewan, to help His Highness the Maha Raja in the discharge of his sacred duty, and when such a man finds that his college mates and others are occupying a higher position in the world of money making, making more money as bankers, as lawyers, as businessmen, it would be certainly wrong to expect that he will put forth his best endeavour for the administration of affairs of the country. There are various weaknesses which we mortals are subject to. Money has a great value. It is not to be forgotten that it is a very great thing. Patriotism is not substitute for money. I remember, Sir, some instances in British India, some ministers said that they did not want any pay as remuneration for the work they did. How many ministers, what percentage of them, will have the nerve to refuse to accept this jingling coin? We may occasionally indulge in that fad. But in this work-a-day world money does count. And more than that, we cannot forget the conditions in British India and other Indian States. The Sahyadri won't shut away the conditions in which they are living.

Sir, in Travancore, the pay of the Dewan is Rs. 2,000. In Mysore it is Rs. 4,000. In Bikaner it is Rs. 4,000, and in some other places the pay is Rs. 5,000. When that is the condition elsewhere, if the Travancore Dewan were to be paid only Rs. 1,000, he will certainly look a very small man in the eyes of the world.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I ask a question? When the Viceroy and the Prime Minister of England, who obviously gets a lesser pay than the Viceroy, meet together, what would he think?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I think my friend knows something of English politics. I have no time to explain that. But I content myself with saying that it is not from the ranks of the service that a person becomes Prime Minister in England. A public man with plenty of money, with plenty of opportunities for work, with learning and patriotism, comes forward and His Majesty asks him to form a ministry. He does not live merely because of his pay. The pay is no doubt some little remuneration but not the whole of it.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether such an individual who, by his own effort, comes up to the highest place, possesses lesser efficiency or greater efficiency than one who is appointed to it?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I did not raise the question of efficiency at all. My friend has not cared to understand me.

In my opinion the Dewanship of Travancore is a position of high status. But I know, it is not after all an office of splendour and comfort at Bhaktivilas. On the contrary, he has so much of hard work, so much of worry, so much of misery, because his acts are often misunderstood. He is the most miserable being. He is, as it were, always between Scylla and Charybdis.

There is another aspect, Sir. It is not a man in the service who began as Tahsildar that becomes the Dewan That rule has been modified. A public man, or an eminent business-man, may become the Dewan. To say that a business-man, who gets a large income, should give up all that because he has talents to become the Dewan, and accept Rs 1,000 does not commend itself to me.

It is wrong to restrict the powers of His Highness the Maha Raja in a matter like this. The choice of a person for the Dewanship is left to His Highness the Maha Raja. It is not by promotion or by seniority that the appointment is made. If a man of character and outstanding personality, who has really been able to do something for the country and who hopes to do a good deal for the uplift of the country, if such a man is available and he becomes the Dewan, His Highness the Maha Raja may hope that something to the benefit of the State could be secured out of him. So it is better to leave it to the consideration of His Highness the Maha Raja. If it is a general rule I will take a different view.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankoa*): Does the member say that people should have no voice in a matter like this?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum- Urban*): I never said anything about the people's voice. People should have a voice. But in such a matter, the people's voice should be subordinated to the decision and judgment of the Ruling Maha Raja.

One word more. In regard to Japan something was said.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Sir, is the member in order in bringing the name of His Highness the Maha Raja under discussion?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: The expression 'His Highness' was introduced for the purpose of the argument that we ought not to tie down the discretion of His Highness. Is that not so?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Yes, Sir.

A word about Japan. The Japanese are a wonderful people. They live between life and death. They have craters and volcanoes. They are always in fear, not only from economic difficulties but also from geological difficulties. They lead a simple life so much so that they can live upon nothing, a mere nothing. So you cannot accept that as the standard for India. When India becomes a nation like Japan, living on less and less comfort, when the ideals that we have at present have been forgotten, then you might have a Dew n on Rs. 500.

But I do subscribe to the very patriotic view put forward by Mr. Nair that we are spending more on the public service than we ought to. The remedy is not this. The remedy that is suggested is much worse than the disease. What I would propose is, reduce the number of appointments by a proper scheme. With regard to Heads of Departments something like the idea now suggested in the standardisation scheme may be applied. But wih regard to the appointment of the Dewan, we shall not restrict the freedom of choice of His Highness the Maha Raja. The Dewan must have a status, sufficient money to live comfortably and affluently so that he may bestow sufficient attention to the affairs of the country without being afraid that the evening of his life will be miserable.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the member will rule out of order that, for all times the minister of a State shall never be a person elected by the Legislature?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum- Urban*) : I appeal to my friend's knowledge of politics. There are very few countries in the world where a minister is elected. Even there he is not elected, but nominated.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): What should be the method for appointing a Dewan?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : I think, that question I shall never have to decide in my life. Because, as I said, it is a matter that rests with His Highness the Maha Raja.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : The resolution before the House is the one on which a simple yes or no cannot be given as an answer. I wish to place before the House certain considerations that seem to me to be material in this discussion. The resolution aims at two things, to raise the pay of the poorly paid subordinates and to cut down as far as possible the pay of the more highly paid officers. It was suggested by one member that to increase the pay of the poorly paid employees it would be desirable to reduce the number of hands employed. I doubt very much the wisdom of that suggestion especially at a time like the present. It may be possible to reduce the number to some extent.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(At this stage the President left the house and the Deputy President took the Chair.)

I was myself a member of the Retrenchment Committee and I know what great difficulty there was in reducing the number of hands employed in the various departments. No head of the department was prepared to admit that he could dispense with anything like a substantial number of men. Moreover at a time like this when people find it very hard to make a livelihood, Government should not lightly think of reducing the number of men in their services. It is no doubt a very difficult matter to increase the pay of the poorly paid subordinates and incur an additional expenditure of Rs. 7 or 8 lakhs per annum. But I am of the opinion that Government ought to see whether something substantial in that direction cannot be done and with that end in view expenditure on the higher ranks cut down. Sir, it was pointedly raised here whether it would be proper to reduce the pay of the higher ranks with the result that the services would not be able to attract sufficiently competent men. There is a very great fallacy underlying that argument; Consider things as they are now. What are the chances of brilliant young men that enter service today?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Service where, in Travancore or Madras Presidency?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): When I am talking about Travancore, Sir, I am surprised to hear the Law Member putting such a question in an irresponsible manner.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I object to that. The Law Member put a question because it is open to a Travancorean to get offices in Travancore or outside. So the question was raised and it was a legitimate one. If you want, you may give the answer.

MR A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): It is open to a Travancorean to do so many other things. But I am talking of things as they exist in Travancore. A brilliant young man enters service on a scale of Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 in the Land Revenue Commissioner's Office or in the Account Office. Now, what are his chances there? He goes up from step to step from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 from Rs 25 to 30, from Rs. 30 to Rs. 35 and so on. And ultimately what are his chances? If he is pushed up by some extraneous help he may one day have the chance of coming to a place which would at the end of the month fetch him Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 or in a few cases Rs. 700 or Rs. 800. We must classify our service into two divisions. You recruit our brilliant young men on a fairly high salary of Rs. 150 or Rs. 200. They should be sure that even on the day they enter service their pay would be not below Rs. 150 or Rs. 200 a month and at no time should their pay go beyond Rs. 500. Now which is better attraction to young men who enter service as clerks? Is it what I suggest or is it the chance of beginning on a scale of Rs. 20 and then gradually going up with a very uncertain prospect of reaching Rs. 700 or Rs. 800? Will the Government Benches answer?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : How many such brilliant young men to start with on Rs. 200 in one year ?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : As many as are required for the services.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : May I suggest, 2000 young men in a year ?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : I do not propose to answer such an insane question

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : You will bear with me in saying that in a friendly discussion of this nature in this House such expressions cannot be used. I am giving you this friendly advice and direction. Please do not do so.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : Sir, I ask in all earnestness whether to put the question whether 2000 brilliant young men could be entertained in Travancore service in one year is sanity ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I want the member to submit to the ruling of the Chair.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Sir, I shall make my position clear.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : How many such brilliant young men could be entertained in a year ?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : I do not propose to answer the question put by the Law Member.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : You cannot refuse to answer questions categorically like that. It is for the Chair to allow or disallow questions. Any member, if he cannot answer a particular question put to him may say so but he cannot categorically say that he is not prepared to answer any question.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : I want to be reasonable and I expect every other member also to be reasonable.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I am very sorry to disturb. I want Mr. Thanu Pillai to give an answer to this. Irrespective of his own view about the reasonableness or unreasonableness of the question, if the Chair is prepared to allow it and if he is able to answer it, Mr. Thanu Pillai may do so.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : I rise to a point of order. Is this ruling to over-rule a prior ruling by the President that only if a member is willing to answer a question, he need answer it ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I do not want members to persist in such a talk. I do not wish Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai to make observations like that. I understand the ruling of the Chair and I understand my own ruling which is as authoritative as that of the President. It is a

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

fundamental principle that the President and the Deputy President have got the power to give rulings and I commonly take the trouble to understand the import of the President's ruling. I have never said that a member has not the right of refusing to answer a question. He has got that right in individual cases. I took objection only to a statement that he objected to answer any question categorically and on a general basis. That suggestion, I trust, will satisfy Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai also.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) ; Sir, I never wanted to give offence to any one. I wanted merely to place one or two considerations before the House and I wish I should be left to have my own way of developing my views. If there are any reasonable questions to be answered I have no objection to do so.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Mr. Thanu Pillai, I object to that also.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : I take it that the Chair will permit only reasonable questions.

To put it simply, we must divide our services at least into two classes. Our brilliant young men must start on Rs. 150 or Rs. 200 so that they may have the assurance that they will never have the chance of serving on a lesser pay. Such men must also be told that they cannot expect more than Rs. 500 a month at any stage of the service. Their pay will be ranging between Rs. 150 and Rs. 500 It is much more attractive than if they are started on a pay of Rs. 25 and left to take their chances to rise with the remote prospect of one day coming up to Rs. 700. I put it, which is better? Certainly my proposal. The large number of graduates and non-graduates, men who are not particularly brilliant, must be satisfied with a pay ranging between Rs 25 and Rs. 150. If any person recruited to the lower ranks proves himself to be particularly able in the course of his official career, then he may be lifted to the higher grade That is a very serious proposition which I place before this House. If that is accepted no sort of favourtism will have its place Recruitment to the higher ranks should be on a purely competitive basis. Will the interests of the State suffer by such a course being adopted? Will not the best men come up and take up service? It will have this distinct advantage.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Has the member calculated the cost of such a scheme?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : It cannot alter the present cost. Now we are maintaining a number of men on salaries ranging between Rs. 150 and Rs. 500. The number of such officers will not be changed. Anyhow my scheme may be given a trial.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The resolution contemplates only two things, that the maximum shall be only Rs. 1,000 and the minimum Rs. 15. The main question is about the maximum and the minimum.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): My answer to that is that Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai's and Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai's main arguments were that, if we were to fix the maximum at Rs. 1,000, Government will appoint quite a large number of persons on a salary nearing Rs. 1,000 and thus the expenditure will be very high.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Only Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai said so.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai also said so. If our best men should prosper and if gold should be separated from the baser metal, I think my propcsal may be accepted. If it be so, the best Travancorean must be prepared to serve for Rs. 500. Now what has the Government done in the case of college appointments? Even though the Retrenchment Committee recommended that the pay of Professors be fixed at Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 Government brought it down to Rs. 300 to Rs. 400. Ordinarily a brilliant young man who enters the Education Department has to stop with the post of Professor and his starting pay in the department is only about Rs. 100. If in the case of brilliant young men in the Education Department this is considered enough, I think, there is nothing wrong in fixing the pay for brilliant young men who enter other departments between Rs. 150 and Rs. 500.

Then a word with regard to the high paid officers who are brought down here. I must also not be misunderstood as saying anything against the present incumbents. There is a very great mistake underlying the practice of importing such high paid officers. I notice there is a tendency on the part of our Government to make people believe that what Travancore needs to-day is only advertisement. I can understand that, if it is advertisement for the sake of commercial advantages. If they are going to advertise our pepper, ginger and other commodities, such advertisement has to be encouraged (*Hear hear*). But that is not the kind of advertisement that our Government wants. They want to advertise Travancore as a State where education is foremost, as a State with a double chambered Legislature, as a State with this and that and several other things. This kind of advertisement does not bring a pie to the tax-payer while it involves unprofitable expenditure of his money. I want to warn the Government and I take this opportunity to warn them against the mistake underlying the appointment of such high paid officers as a sort of advertisement. The strength and stability of a Government does not depend upon opinion artificially created outside the State concerned but on the feelings and contentment of the people within.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is now 1 o'clock. I have given you more than the usual time.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): I would like to be given two minutes more. My point is that the stability of the country is not to be decided by any external opinion but by the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

feeling naturally fostered in the minds of the people of the State (*Hear hear*). Our Government seem to ignore that fundamental fact. They are thinking that by creating external agency and newspaper agency they can do that. But it is a mistake.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All that has no bearing on the resolution.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, I mention that the appointment of high paid officers is one aspect of this tendency to advertise the State outside. That is my point. Otherwise how can they justify such officers? Government want to show to the outside world that they maintain a large number of high paid officers, ignoring that the cost of having those officers is not justified by the work they do or the benefit the State derives from their work. Now I will refer for instance to the appointment of the present Durbar Physician. How can that be justified? Is it due to his technical qualifications?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I was prepared to grant you two minutes more. That time also has expired. We will now adjourn to meet again at 2 o'clock.

The House adjourned at 1-2 P. M. and met again at 2 P M. with the Deputy President in the Chair.

OATH OF OFFICE.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai, Director of Public Health, took the oath and signed the rolls.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Sir, I wish to make a few observations on the resolution now before the House. The resolution now before the House, I gather, is the resolution of my friend Mr. S. J. Nair, as amended by that of Mr. Elenkath, because Mr. S. J. Nair has accepted the amendment. The resolution, as it stands, says that, barring the Dewan, no officer in the State should get a salary of more than Rs. 500. A great deal of discussion on this resolution centered round the salary of the Dewan, the impossibility of getting a competent Dewan for Rs. 1000, but all that appears to be irrelevant because the resolution, as it now stands, excludes altogether the salary of the Dewan and that of the Chief Justice.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Does it exclude the salary of the Chief Justice?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) Alright; it excludes the salary of the Dewan only.

The discussion centered round the salary of the Dewan, and that, I think, is absolutely irrelevant because in the resolution his salary is excluded altogether.

Coming to the resolution, as amended, it appears to me, Sir, that the object of the resolution is twofold; In the first place, to raise the salary of the lower subordinates to a minimum of Rs. 15 in order that they may get a living wage and secondly to retrench expenditure in the upper strata of the service so as, perhaps, to find funds for this increased

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. Changanachery K. Parameswaran Pillai.]

expenditure on account of the increase in the pay of the subordinate staff. The Financial Secretary answers this by saying that the increase of the expenditure implied in the increased salary of the subordinate staff will be a very large amount whereas the savings from retrenchment in the expenditure on the superior service will be so small that it will not be sufficient to meet the increased expenditure on account of the subordinate staff. It appears to me, Sir, that there is a fallacy in this argument, because when it is suggested that the maximum pay to an officer in the State should be only Rs. 500, it necessarily follows that there will be revision of salaries in general. If for instance the pay of the Division Peishkar is fixed at Rs. 500, the salaries of First Class Magistrates, the Tahsildars and all other subordinates will be proportionately reduced. I think it is possible to grade the service in such a way by fixing the maximum at Rs. 500, as to secure a substantial saving in expenditure and such savings might probably compensate for the increased expenditure on account of fixing the minimum salary at Rs. 15. If, after all, by this retrenchment it is not possible to attain this end, then the minimum pay might be reduced to Rs. 10 or Rs. 12. There is no harm in this scheme being adopted.

Now the chief objection that is taken to the cutting down of the salary of higher officers is the sentimental objection that people of their grade in British India receive a very much higher salary and therefore they will look very small in the eyes of their brother officers in the same grade in British India. This is purely a matter of prestige. All that I have to say is that they, our officers, should train their nerves in such a way as to stand this loss of prestige if prestige depends entirely on salary alone. But I do not think that is so. Apart from that, I might say that the salary of the officers in British India has been fixed so high for reasons which do not exist here. In the first place these officers have jurisdiction over large areas which may, to some extent, at least justify their high salary. Take for instance the Madras Presidency, which is about 120,000 sq. miles in area with a population of 50 millions. It has got a High Court with only 14 Judges whereas Travancore with a population of 5 millions and an area of 7,000 sq. miles has got a High Court with 7 Judges. In proportion to the area they should have 140 Judges for the Madras Presidency and in proportion to the population they should have 60 Judges. But Madras has only 14 Judges and the high salary the Judges receive is to some extent due to this fact. Again there is another and more important reason for the high salaries paid in British India. The British Government want a large number of Englishmen to come and serve in India. The Englishmen are a nation of merchants and the possibilities of making very large fortunes in mercantile business is so great in England that a man of average ability and education will not accept any salary which does not bear some proportion to the income which he might make in any other walk of life. Therefore, in order to attract English young men, they have fixed a very high scale of salary in British India. There is also the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

fact that, there must be sufficient inducement for an Englishman to leave the temperate and salubrious climate of his country and take service in the tropics with a temperature varying between 90° and 120° with its mosquitoes, malaria and what not. Therefore the analogy of British India, does not at all hold good in the case of a small State like Travancore where we do not want to attract Englishmen and where we can manage our business with our own people.

Now, Sir, the salary of the Government servant must bear some proportion to the economic condition of the people, to the means of the persons who contribute towards the payment of the salary. What is the condition in Travancore? I find from an examination of the Chapter on the economic condition of the people of the State in the Census Report of Dr. Kunjan Pillai, that on an average, in Travancore more than one-third of the workers in the State get an income of less than Rs. 50. Less than Rs. 50 means one cash to Rs. 50. Even if they make a maximum of Rs. 50, each of them has got to maintain a family consisting of, on an average, about 5 members and the average income of a workman's family therefore is only As. 13 per month per head. More than one-third of the population of the State are therefore on the verge of starvation. The number of people who make an income of Rs. 100 and more per year is very small and I do not think there are more than 2 or 3 per cent. of the whole population which make more than Rs. 200 a month. The average income per head of population is only Rs. 50. You will find that the Government service is the highest paid service in the State even including the learned professions. You will find that the income of an agricultural abourer is only Rs. 61 per year. The income per head from the different classes of occupations pursued by the people in the State is given below :—

		Rs.
Agricultural labourers	...	61
Estate coolies	...	119
Unskilled labourers	...	80
Fishing	...	130
Fish trade	...	127
Exploitation of minerals	...	141
Textile industry	...	89
Wood industry	...	107
Metal industry	...	151
Ceramics	...	161
Food industry	...	74
Other industries	...	134
Transport	...	152
Trade	...	196
Professions and liberal arts	...	247
Miscellaneous occupation	...	198
Public administration	...	332

Therefore, it would be seen that in Travancore Public Administration affords the highest income.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly